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180 Pine Avenue North, Oldsmar FL 34677 (813) 925-8505 Tel (813) 925-8525 Fax

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# INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

To:	U.S. Patent & Trademark Office	From:	Ronald E. Smith	
Attn:	Mark Spisich – Art Unit 1744	Cllent:	1051.10	
Fax:	(571) 273-8300	Pages:	12 including coversheet	
Phone:	(571) 272-1778	Date:	August 24, 2006	
Re:	USSN 10/708,266	CC:	Mark E. Kirby	

Dear Examiner Spisich:

in response to the non-final office action mailed June 27, 2006, we enclose the following:

- Amendment Transmittal with Certificate of Facsimile Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a) dated August 24, 2006 (2 pages); and
- Amendment B with Certificate of Facsimile Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a) dated August 24, 2006 (9 pages).

Very respectfully,

Ronald E. Smith

USPTO Reg. No. 28,761

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AUG 2 4 2006

Ø 002/012

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

: 10/708,266

Confirmation No.: 2265

Applicant:

: Mark E. Kirby

Filed:

: 02/20/2004

Art Unit

: 1744

Examiner

: Mark Spisich

Docket No.

: 1051.10

Customer No.

: 21,901

For

: Grout Cleaning Sponge

Transmitted to Central Fax at (571) 273-8300 Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application.

#### **STATUS**

2. Applicant is an independent inventor.

# **EXTENSION OF TERM**

3. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

#### CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

(37 C.F.R. 1.8 (a))

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Art Unit 1744, Attn: Mark Spisich, (571) 273-8300 on August 24, 2006.

Dated: August 24, 2006

(Amendment Transmittal—page 1)

### FEE FOR CLAIMS

The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below: 4.

(Col.1) (Col. 2)				(Col. 3) S	Col. 3) SMALL ENTITY		
Claims Remaining After Amendment			Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Addit. Fee	
Total	8	Minus	20	= 0	x \$25 =	\$0	
Indep.	3	Minus	3	= 0	x \$100 =	\$0	
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim				<u> </u>	+ \$180 =	\$0	
		<del></del> -			Total	\$0	

Addit. Fee 20

If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "O" in Col. 3,

If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE (Column 2, Row 1) is less than 20, enter "20". If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE (Column 2, Row 2) is less than 3, enter "3".

The "Highest No. Previously Peid For" (Total or Indep.) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

No additional fee for claims is required.

Very respectfully,

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Reg. No. 28,761

Tel. No.: (813) 925-8505

Ronald E. Smith Smith & Hopen, P.A. 180 Pine Avenue North Oldsmar, FL 34677 Attorneys for Applicant

(Amendment Transmittal-page 2)

**2**004/012

AUG 2 4 2006

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

: 10/708,266

Confirmation No.: 2265

Applicant:

: Mark E. Kirby : 02/20/2004

Filed: TC/A.U.

: 1744

Examiner

: Mark Spisich

Docket No.

: 1051.10

Customer No.

: 21,901

For

: Grout Cleaning Sponge

Transmitted to Central Fax at (571) 273-8300

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

#### AMENDMENT A

**Introductory Comments** 

Sir:

In response to the non-final Examiner's Action mailed 06/27/2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire 09/27/2006, the above-identified patent application is amended a first time as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.